

NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service
Fruit and Vegetable Programs
Market News Division

Federal Market News Service
1400 Independence Ave, SW
STOP 0238

Washington, DC 20250

Phone: 202-720- 2175 FAX: 202-720-0547

Website: www.marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/fv-home
www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/fvmhoney.pdf

Number XXXIV - #12

Issued Monthly

December 16, 2014

UPDATED REPORT: SEE PRICES BELOW

HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2014

IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Prices paid to beekeepers for extracted, unprocessed honey in major producing states by packers, handlers & other large users, cents per pound, f.o.b. or delivered nearby, containers exchanged or returned, prompt delivery & payment unless otherwise stated.

- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY -

(# Some in Small Lot --- +Some delayed payments or previous commitment)

ARKANSAS

Soybean Extra Light Amber \$1.96

CALIFORNIA

Alfalfa Light Amber \$1.75

Clover White \$2.00 - \$2.15

Clover Light Amber \$1.70

COLORADO

Alfalfa Extra Light Amber \$2.05

DAKOTA

Clover White \$1.95 - \$2.00

FLORIDA

Wildflower Extra Light Amber \$1.85 - \$2.10

MONTANA

Clover White \$2.00 - \$2.15

WISCONSIN

Clover White \$2.25 - \$2.35

Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound, ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

ARGENTINA

Mixed Flowers White \$2.11 - \$2.15

Mixed Flowers Extra Light \$2.01 - \$2.15

BRAZIL

Mixed Flowers Light Amber \$1.86

INDIA

Mixed Flowers Extra Light \$1.68

Mixed Flowers Light Amber \$1.36 - \$1.65

MEXICO

Mixed Flowers Light Amber \$1.85

UKRAINE

Sunflower White \$1.64

URUGUAY

Mixed Flowers Light Amber \$1.83

VIETNAM

Mixed Flowers Light Amber \$1.35 - \$1.52

COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING NOVEMBER, 2014

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): November was slightly colder than normal for the month with an occasional above average record setting low day followed by a day with temperatures way above average. A record low temperature of 19 degrees at BWI airport was set on November 19, which broke the old record of 20 set in 1936. Rainfall was near normal for the month with most of the moisture falling at the start of the month and an early snowstorm dropped measurable snow before the Thanksgiving holiday. Colonies are doing fairly well and beekeepers are providing supplemental feeding sources and monitoring will be important during the fluctuating temperatures that this region usually experiences throughout the winter months.

ALABAMA: November was a crazy month weather wise in Alabama, as it was around most parts of the country. Two extreme cold snaps (for Alabama) in back to back weeks around the middle of the month caused some brood kill in south Alabama. There were some reports of weak colonies dying out during this period. North Alabama colonies fared a little better because brood rearing had stopped for the most part. Many beekeepers are now feeding their bees to help get them through what could be a rough winter. Luckily the weather moderated the last week of the month so maybe cold weather damage will be limited. Most beekeepers reported an average to below average fall honey flow, although there seemed to be plenty to forage on. This might be attributed to the dry conditions during the summer, leaving the nectar quality a little low. Overall, the honey crop was about average to a little above, depending on who you asked. Honey demand is very high as it has been for a while now. Small hive beetle was not much of a problem until mid to late fall, which was a nice change from recent years. Foulbrood reports were about average for this part of the country. Varroa was moderately to quite high in late summer in a lot of bee yards where little or no treating took place. This may have played a part in the colony die-offs we saw in November. Hopefully the bees are in good enough shape to get through the coming winter months.

ARIZONA: Temperatures in Arizona were at normal levels the first week of November, above normal the second week, below normal the third week and slightly above normal levels the final week of November.

The range in statewide temperatures for the month was from a high of 91 degrees Fahrenheit in Yuma and Parker to a low of 2 degrees Fahrenheit in Grand Canyon.

Out of the 39 reporting stations, the weekly number of weather reporting stations to receive precipitation were 11, 10, 5 and 0, respectively. 11 of the reporting stations have received a higher level of precipitation than normal for this point of the year, while a total of 29 out of the 39 stations have received precipitation at or above 70 percent of normal precipitation levels to date.

The main nectar and pollen source for bees in the state was desert plant bloom, cantaloupes and honeydews. Beekeepers are starting to make preparations to move colonies to other locations within the state, or to other states, for pollination of nut and fruit trees. Demand for honey remains good.

ARKANSAS: Pollen and nectar sources received in the month of November were from asters, and a few trees. Conditions of the colonies were in generally good condition. Weather conditions showed below normal temperatures with little rainfall. Supply is low while demand remains high.

CALIFORNIA: The week started with a high degree of variability in daily temperatures, ranging from the 20s to the 80s in the mountains and southern deserts, respectively. A thermal low over the Colorado River delta set up on Wednesday morning and helped establish the weather pattern for the remainder of the week. After a brief warming trend on Wednesday, much of the existing mountain snowpack melted and temperatures stabilized. Pacific moisture began streaming into the northern half of the State. The moisture was finally realized over the weekend as much of the northern half of the State saw close to an inch to an inch and a half of rain. Modest snowfall occurred in the northern Sierras, with locations around Truckee reporting around 3-6 inches. By the end of the weekend, a sharp temperature gradient had set up as the southern extent of polar air pushed into the northern half of the State. The thermal low over the Colorado Valley persisted over the southern half of the State. The southern half of the State remained dry. By the weekend, although there still remained high variability in temperatures across the state, temperatures had stabilized in their respective areas, with the agricultural areas of the State regularly seeing highs in the 60s and lows in the lower 40s.

With the stormy weather and shortened days, the bees are not foraging much. Beekeepers have moved their bees to their winter holding yards. Feeding continues when the weather is mild although the rate of feeding has slowed down. Beekeepers have reported that the bees seem to be healthy. The beekeepers are now in a waiting mode to see how the bees fare through colder days and how they will look next month in preparation for almond pollination.

COLORADO: Temperatures were below normal across most of Colorado during November with the exception of slightly above normal temperatures in the Southwest area of State. Precipitation was below normal across most areas of the State during the same period according to the National Weather Service. The Denver and Pueblo areas were the exception on precipitation with slightly above normal precipitation during November. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the area of the State which has had normal moisture conditions expanded in size during the month of November. This was primarily due to good moisture in many areas of the State. The Southeastern area has seen an improvement in their drought conditions. That part of the State has now improved to a severe drought compared to the extreme drought that this area has had for the past 3 years.

With all the honey extracted, commercial beekeepers have indicated a wide range of yields across Colorado that ranged from 20 to 50 pounds per colony. The better yields seemed to be in Eastern Colorado. Some parts of Western Colorado had a terrible year. The timing just seemed to be off the entire honey producing season. Overall, beekeepers indicated that honey production Statewide was around one half of a crop, when compared to a normal year. Beekeepers have indicated that most of their bees are still looking good going into late November. However, there are some bees are not as good as they should be due to a host of different issues including varroa mites, queen issues and untimely weather. With all active fall feeding now completed, beekeepers are hoping that the honey stores and extra supplemental feeding will be enough to ensure proper health and nutrition for bees going into the winter months.

Commercial beekeepers have moved their bees to California and other Southern States. By moving bees to warmer locations, Colorado beekeepers are able to bypass the cold weather for better winter survival. The bees that were moved to California will be in position for the 2015 spring almond pollination. Beekeepers have expressed concerns about whether there will be enough bees available for the almond pollination in California. With good nutrition and absence of extreme cold temperatures, the chance for bee survival improves. Prices for almond pollination contracts have been quoted at around \$170-\$180 per 8 frame hive and up to \$192 for a 10 frame hive. Fall treatments for varroa mites have been a battle this year. Some beekeepers have applied up to 4 treatments to combat the higher level of mites. Beekeepers stated that this action has been required in their attempts to stay ahead of the problem. Beekeepers seem confident that they are winning this battle. However, the true gauge of varroa mite control will not be known until spring. Overall, losses for commercial beekeepers have been around 10 to 15 percent this fall.

Currently, wholesale demand for honey is very good at slightly lower prices in Colorado. Prices for new crop honey started out strong and at higher levels for the year. As the fall season has progressed, prices have fallen slightly from their recent highs. Current prices reported by commercial beekeepers in Colorado are as follows: White Honey averages around \$2.01 to \$2.10 per pound. Extra Light Amber Honey averages around \$1.90 to \$1.95 per pound. Light Amber Honey averages around \$1.80 to \$1.85 per pound. Wholesale light capping wax averages around \$3.50 per pound. Prices vary depending upon quality and quantity.

FLORIDA: Temperatures ranged from lows in the 20's in a few areas to highs in the 80's in most areas at different times of the month. A couple of cold fronts moved through the state resulting in highs in the upper 40's to lower 50's for several days in many areas and relatively windy conditions. Rainfall was about average for the month across the state, but a few areas experienced flooding conditions. The weather had little effect on the bees overall. Bee health was considered good with mite control fairly good for most beekeepers. There were few sources of food except for scattered wildflowers such as aster and Spanish Needle. Supplemental feeding was generally required to sustain the hives. Brazilian Pepper honey production ended and most of the honey was sold before the end of the month. Almost all of the bees had also returned from Northern states by the end of the month. Honey supplies were very light with good demand supporting prices at or near record levels. Beekeepers were treating for mites and splitting hives preparing for the California almond pollination season in late January and February. These preparations will continue until the bees are relocated to California early next year with little honey produced in Florida during the coming winter months.

GEORGIA: Most of the beekeepers report that the bees are in pretty good condition heading into winter. Weather conditions were variable throughout the state with a few warm days and extreme cold late and into the early morning hours. Most of the hives and the current condition of the bees are in good shape for winter with no notable losses other than normal conditions with the bees building back up and the beekeepers encouraging brooding with extra feed. Dandelions and a few flowering type plants are the main source of food outside of supplemental feeding. Because of the high prices of honey some beekeepers pulled much of the late summer and fall honey. Wholesale \$6-7 lb Retail \$8-12 lb depending on type of honey and color

IDAHO: Temperatures were much below normal over the entire State of Idaho during the month of November, according to the National Weather Service. During the same period, precipitation was below normal in the Northern Panhandle and Eastern areas and above normal in West Central and Southwest areas of the State. Some good snows have been recorded over parts of the State during November. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, in November all areas of the State except the Southeast experienced some type of drought conditions that varied from an extreme drought in the Southwest region to moderate and abnormally dry over other areas. The Southeast area of the State had normal moisture conditions.

With all the honey extracted, commercial beekeepers have indicated yields across Idaho from 49 to 70 pounds per colony. Beekeepers indicated that yields of honey from 2014 were better than in 2013. So overall it has been a better year in Idaho.

Beekeepers have indicated that their bees are still looking good going into late November. With all active fall feeding now completed, beekeepers are hoping that honey stores and extra supplemental feeding will be enough to ensure proper health and nutrition for bees going into the winter months. Some Idaho commercial beekeepers have moved their bees to controlled temperature buildings. Controlled temperature buildings provide Idaho beekeepers some insurance against potential brutal weather conditions that can occur in Idaho during the winter months. Beekeepers attempt to maintain internal temperatures in these bee buildings around 42 to 43 degrees. This is cool enough to prevent flying, but warm enough so bees can save up their energy for the next season. Commercial beekeepers plan to start trucking their bees to California by the middle of January for the annual almond pollination. Prices for almond pollination contracts have been quoted at around \$170-\$180 per 8 frame hive and up to \$192 for a 10 frame hive.

Fall treatments for varroa mites seem to have been effective up to this point. The true gauge of varroa mite control will not be known until spring. Overall, losses of bees for commercial beekeepers have been around 10 percent for the entire 2014 season.

Currently, wholesale demand for honey is very good and prices are slightly lower in Idaho. Prices for new crop honey started out strong and at higher levels for the year. As the fall season has progressed, prices have fallen slightly from their recent highs. Current prices reported by commercial beekeepers in Idaho are as follows: White Honey averages around \$2.06 per pound. Retail prices range from \$4.36 to \$5.39 per pound. Prices vary depending upon quality and quantity.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures for the month of November were mostly normal during the beginning of the month, but during the middle and end of the month temperatures begin to drop from the high 40s into the lower 30s and mid twenty's. Beekeepers report their bees in fairly good to good condition. Most beekeepers are busy making sure that their bee's are wintering well during the winter months. A few beekeepers report some supplemental feeding of the bees to make sure there is enough food in the hives. Demand for honey is good at the retail and wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA: Temperatures and precipitation were well below normal. Precipitation included above normal snowfalls, but overall, below normal. This month brought about frigid temperatures across all state areas.

Beekeepers were busy attending meetings, bee classes and checking bees food supplies. Some local beekeepers traveled to California to check on their hive conditions during the almond season. Supplies of queen and package bees are being reported very tight for mid-April and May deliveries. Honey demand and sales remain strong.

INDIANA: Temperatures for the month of November were normal to abnormal with normal to above normal moisture due to intermittent rain showers during the month of November. Beekeepers report their bees in good condition as well as a wintering well, but report much supplemental feeding during the winter months for the survival of their hives. Demand for honey is good, while Prices are generally unchanged.

KENTUCKY: Beekeepers in Kentucky were having to feed their bees in November because of a wet rainy October. This was one of the colder Novembers on record, (Frankfort was the second coldest, Louisville the ninth coldest), according to the National Weather Service. Brood patterns were noticeably smaller than they had been in previous Novembers. Soybean nectars washed away by the beginning of the month, so honey stores were quite low. Chalkbrood was detected in all regions of the state, some severe, some not. Losses to small hive beetle and varroa mites were also reported. The honey production in Kentucky was down from previous years.

LOUISIANA: Pollen and nectar sources received in the month of November were wild flowers. Most colonies were in generally good condition. Weather conditions saw alternating between wet, cold and then rising temperatures. Supply is adequate while demand remains high.

MICHIGAN: Below average temperatures and heavy snowfall during December and January has many beekeepers concerned about the general health of hives and heavy losses. Bees have not been able to break cluster to feed, although sugar blocks/candy boards have helped sustain some units. Honey demand has been strong, with many smaller beekeepers out of honey stores. Wholesale prices range from \$2.25-2.50 pound/drum.

For those commercial bee colonies "wintering" in Florida, the hive conditions have been excellent. Feed demands have been near normal to slightly above due to the larger populations in colonies, which require more winter feed to maintain. Some commercial bee keepers are preparing and transporting hives from their "winter" home in Florida to California for almond pollination, which is slated to begin around February 10-15. The weather conditions have remained on the warmer side all month, and the bloom could be 10-14 days earlier than one year earlier. Conditions in the San Joaquin valley orchards are extremely dry, with no rain in sight. One commercial beekeeper commented that early reports indicate adequate honeybee colonies available this spring for almond pollination. Considering the drought that almond growers face, some may be reluctant to add additional hives beyond what is already contracted. Prices are steady at this time with 7-8 frame units renting from \$150-160 and 11-12 frame units from \$185-195.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures were below normal across most of the State in November with no exceptions. It was an extreme cold start to the winter in Minnesota this fall. Precipitation in November was below normal across the entire State, according to the National Weather Service. The U.S. Drought Monitor is starting to indicate abnormally dry conditions over a good portion of the State. Only the Southeastern and East Central areas continue to show normal moisture conditions as of late November.

With all the honey extracted, Minnesota commercial beekeepers have indicated a wide range of yields across Minnesota, mainly at levels generally less than 40 pounds per colony. The lower yields seemed to be across the whole State. According to beekeepers, yields of honey from 2014 were some of the worst in recent memory.

Beekeepers have indicated that their bees are still looking good going into late November. With all active fall feeding now completed, beekeepers are hoping that the honey stores and extra supplemental feeding will be enough to ensure proper health and nutrition for bees going into the winter months.

Commercial beekeepers have moved their bees to California and other Southern States. By moving bees to warmer locations, Minnesota beekeepers are able to bypass the cold weather for better winter survival. The bees that were moved to California will be in position for the 2015 spring almond pollination. Beekeepers have expressed concerns about whether there will be enough bees available for the almond pollination in California. It really comes down to how bees survive through the winter months. In addition, with good nutrition the chance for bee survival improves. Prices for almond pollination contracts have been quoted at around \$170-\$180 per 8 frame hive and up to \$192 for a 10 frame hive.

Fall treatments for varroa mites seem to have been effective up to this point. The true gauge of varroa mite control will not be known until spring. Overall, losses for commercial beekeepers have been minimal this fall.

Currently, wholesale demand for honey is very good and prices are about steady in Minnesota. Current prices reported by commercial beekeepers in Minnesota are as follows: White Honey average around \$2.10 to \$2.20 per pound. Wholesale light capping wax is averaging from \$3.45 to \$5.00 per pound. Prices vary depending upon quality and quantity.

MISSISSIPPI: The beekeepers have prepped and prepared the hives for winter. The bees are reported to be in good condition. Supplemental feeding is needed in some areas for lack of extra food sources. The bees are in survival mode and back into the hives as the weather gets cold.

MONTANA: Most areas of Montana experienced generally average temperatures with less than average amounts of precipitation during the month of January. Bee keepers were busy with equipment repair, and winter inspections of colonies overwintering in home yards. Keepers also were busy trucking colonies from Montana or warmer staging areas to staging areas in California for the upcoming almond and soft fruit pollination season. As January drew to a close, keepers were moving their strong colonies into the first Almond, citrus, blueberry, plum, orchards for the early bloom. Honey demand was said to be good.

NEW ENGLAND: In New England, seasonal winter weather has been the norm with the usual deep freeze and heavy but sporadic periods of snow fall occurring throughout January. Precipitation in the form of significant snowfall affords the entire region with high moisture levels which should provide ideal conditions in the spring for abundant pollen and nectar sources. It has been very cold and beekeepers are especially concerned about the possibility of dead outs. In the past, these cold winters usually result in heavy losses and small spring clusters and a spring like thaw could really help the bees' right about now. Additionally, New England has had little snow cover when it has been exceedingly cold in order to insulate the hives. Furthermore, to add to the concern, package bees and Nucs (nucleus hives) from the south may be delayed as the winter has reached many of the southern production areas but we will know more in mid- February when southern queen rearing begins.

During this month, Nor'easter storms have been bombarding New England with heavy snowfall. Keepers have been checking colonies for ample supplies of honey for over wintering. In New England, experienced beekeepers during fall preparations have made sure that each hive had 60 to 80 lbs of food stores before cold weather. As needed, colonies are being fed with fondant, protein patties, and sugar candy, in order to add to any stored food that remained after surplus honey was drawn off. Many keepers are reluctant to open hives and chance chilling the bees as most leave enough food in regard to hives showing light stores. In a timely way, keepers will remove the top cover and inner cover in order to locate clusters. Many beekeepers report that bees have exhibited the usual late winter pattern of clustering just under the inner cover. Moreover, many keepers have found bees on the top frames of the upper hive body. The clusters are tight enough to keep the bees safe. As the temperature drops below 55 degrees F and gets progressively colder, they cluster closer together and generate heat by vibrating their wing muscles without moving their wings, as they move to center themselves on the brood. In a strong hive, there will be two inches of bees around the cluster that serves as insulation. This keeps the heat within the cluster so it is not lost, as bees inside the cluster continually replace those on the outside so that none of them freeze to death. Even when it is freezing outside, the bees keep the temperature around the brood nest at 92 degrees F. In New England, keepers advice checking the brood areas and replace empty frames with capped honey ones but never physically disturb the cluster. The current mindset is-, feed while you can. In this inspection process, check the hives for the weight of the stores. Light weight store conditions require adding granulated sugar or fondant on the inner cover and monitor to see if the bees are utilizing it. Keepers report a high feeding success rate when spacers (3/8 inch x 1 inch x 6 inches) are utilized. The spacers allow the bees, access to the holes in the jar cover. Many New England beekeepers are currently using hive protection methods such as wrapping hives with tar paper and/or adding a top insulation board; which will help keep the hive warm and reduce wind infiltration. Additionally, tilting hives to assist drainage is accomplished by tilting the back end of the hive up and the front end down in order to assist drainage of the bottom board. Condensation from poor ventilation will more adversely affect bees than cold weather. Colonies need to be well ventilated to abate this problem. In New England, hives normally lose 5 to 10% of their population due to normal winter ventilation issues. The increase in daylight hours will signal the queen to begin laying hence a food source is necessary and timely needed.

Many keepers are occupied in building, repairing and maintenance of equipment as this is the "down" season for beekeeping. This is the time to plan for the coming year. New England keepers will be seeking answers to the following questions: How many hives would you like to have? How much equipment will you need? When you have made these decisions you will need to order the bees, queens and equipment.

Overall colonies were reported to be in moderate to fairly good condition whereby the reported colonies experiencing good health were reportedly the ones that received regular and aggressive applications of mite treatments. This year has proved to be a good overall season with light varroa populations, sporadic disease issues and a reasonable honey crop with a commercial estimated average of 45 pounds per production colony. Hobbyists report generally speaking that their colonies have exhibited a mixed bag relative to the amount of honey production reported. It is difficult to generalize the season, however it is the local environment and the work the bees do that determines the quantity, quality, color and taste.

Demand at all retail/wholesale outlets remains good and honey sales remains firm. Prices quoted for retail 1 lb. bottled units were \$8.50 to \$10.50 mostly \$10.00, occasionally higher, and 1 Quart bottled units were \$18.00 to \$20.00 mostly \$19.50, occasionally higher, inclusive of all varieties; for food service operations, prices were higher with 5 gallon units at \$195.00 to \$240.00 mostly \$230.00 and occasionally lower for all raw and natural honey depending on variety and quality. Additionally, current prices quoted for 1 Quart bottled units for raw pollen were \$28.00 to \$30.00 mostly \$29.00 and for raw propolis tincture are \$16.00 to \$18.00 mostly \$17.50 for 2 ounce containers. Current wholesale prices quoted exclusively for white, cleaned beeswax are steady and for 11lb block units at \$5.50 to \$6.00 mostly \$5.50 and for 50lb block units at \$4.50 to \$5.50 mostly \$5.00. Price quotes taken for bulk orders above 50lbs are \$2.50 to \$4.50 mostly \$4.00 for white/light, cleaned beeswax. Retail white and cleaned beeswax prices reported are \$16.00 to \$20.00 per pound mostly \$19.00. In the Northeast overall, the wholesale natural and raw honey price has been around \$2.50 per pound by the 55 gallon barrel.

NEW YORK: Below normal temperatures the past 3-4 weeks has beekeepers concerned with survival rates. Additional feedings have been necessary to sustain hives. There are many novice beekeepers facing some adverse weather conditions thus far this winter, and higher losses could be likely unless

extra precautions and care were carried out as winter began. If the cold weather continues into February, March and April, without opportunities for periodic cleansing flights, colony losses will increase. Local honey demand has been steady with some beekeepers out of stock and a strong wholesale market continues. Meanwhile, many beekeepers have been busy placing orders and buying packages in anticipation of higher losses.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures in North Carolina were below normal reaching record lows during January. Many areas were under a Winter Weather Advisory and/or Winter Storm Warning in effect January 28-30 and received measurable snow and sleet. During this time statewide soil moisture levels were rated at 3 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 40 percent surplus. The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council reported 5 counties as abnormally dry.

The unseasonably cold temperatures and snow made it difficult for beekeepers to inspect hives for losses, but some are expected due to the lingering effects of varroa mites as well as the weather variations. If bees were able to forage during the month they could be seen working ornamental evergreen shrubs and possibly Red Maple in the Coastal Plain. Bees were also seen in bird feeders, saw dust, and grain dust.

Commercial beekeepers have been preparing to move bees to California for fruit and tree nut pollination or sales of bees. It is predicted there will be a shortage of queens and packages this season. Demand for honey remains high.

NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA: Cold weather settled in limiting field work. Bees had generally been moved to their winter homes. Honey production was average this season and slightly better than the last 2 seasons. The bees and hives are generally looking good as they arrived in various destinations to the south and southwest.

OHIO: Local honey stores are scarce and packers are scrambling to find supplies. Cold temperatures have forced supplemental feedings to minimize bee losses. Extra precautions were implemented by many beekeepers in better insulate hives from higher losses. Prices as high as \$3.00 pound wholesale and \$5.00 pound for varietals such as star thistle and lynden have been reported; some sellers await higher spring prices.

OKLAHOMA: In Oklahoma pollen and nectar sources received during November were from fall flowers, last of the field crops, and nut trees. Conditions of the colonies were generally good. Weather condition saw normal condition for this time of year. Supply is good, demand is very high.

OREGON: Generally near normal temperatures and amounts of precipitation were experienced over Oregon during November. Colonies were reported to be of generally good strength. During November keepers were kept busy with their chores winterizing colonies and with equipment repair. Keepers continued to truck colonies to California wintering areas, although some keepers preferred to winter their colonies closer to home until staging time for the early California bloom. Wild plant and irrigated farm crop pollen and nectar sources were finished for the season. Honey demand was said to be good.

SOUTH CAROLINA: No report issued.

TENNESSEE: The weather in November in Tennessee was colder and wetter than normal for most of the State. There have been very few flowering plants during the month. No major bee health issues were reported. Some beekeepers have to feed colonies that are without sufficient winter stores.

TEXAS: Pollen and nectar sources received during November were from wild flowers, trees and winter crops. Colonies were in generally good condition. Some beekeepers fed their bees in certain areas of Texas during a timeframe with freezing temperatures. Weather conditions have seen above normal temperatures, then a cold snap, with small pockets of rain. Supply and demand are both good.

UTAH: According to the National Weather Service, temperatures were below normal across the entire State of Utah during the month of November. Precipitation was below normal across most of the State of Utah with the exception of a few Southern locations which had slightly above normal precipitation during the same period. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, in November the Northeast and Eastern areas of the State continue to have normal moisture conditions. The rest of the State has drought conditions that ranged from abnormally dry to severe. The worst severe drought conditions are confined to an area located west of the Great Salt Lake.

With all the honey extracted, commercial beekeepers have indicated a wide range of yields across Utah that ranged from 20 to 75 pounds per colony. The better yields seemed to be in Southern areas of Utah. Southern beekeepers indicated that yields of honey from 2014 were better overall than in 2013. Some Northern areas had honey crops that were not any better than in 2013.

Beekeepers have indicated that most of their bees are still looking good going into late November. With all active fall feeding now completed, beekeepers are hoping that the honey stores and extra supplemental feeding will be enough to ensure proper health and nutrition for bees going into the winter months. Since most Utah commercial beekeepers are relatively close to California, they have been moving their bees from Utah bee yards straight to California for the almond pollination season in the spring of 2015. By moving bees now, they are able to bypass the cold Utah winter. This ensures better bee winter survival rates. Prices for almond pollination contracts have been quoted at around \$170-\$180 per 8 frame hive and up to \$192 for a 10 frame hive.

Fall treatments for varroa mites have been a battle this year. Multiple treatments have been required in beekeepers attempts to stay ahead of the problem. Beekeepers seem confident that they are winning this battle. However, the true gauge of varroa mite control will not be known until spring. Overall, losses of bees for commercial beekeepers have been minimal this fall in Utah.

Currently, wholesale demand for honey is very good at slightly lower prices in Utah. Prices for new crop honey started out strong and at higher levels for the year. As the fall season has progressed, prices have fallen slightly from their recent highs. Current prices reported by commercial beekeepers in Utah are as follows: White Honey averages around \$2.10 per pound. Light Amber Honey is averaging around \$2.00 per pound. Wholesale light capping wax is averaging from \$3.85 to \$5.00 per pound with a mostly price of \$4.00 per pound. Prices vary depending upon quality and quantity.

WASHINGTON: Beekeepers have prepared their hives for winter or moved them to their winter home. They have been checking their hives for adequate food. The weather in November was generally cold limiting activity in the hive, but it has been followed by warmer, wetter weather. Some rain but little or no snow. Apple and pear harvest is done with a record number of apples this season.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures for the month of November were reported generally normal around the beginning of the month, but changed around the middle as well as the end of the month as a few areas around the state further north were hit with cold weather as well as intermittent snow flurries. However most Beekeepers report their bee hives in good condition. A few beekeepers- report some mite treatment in the fall and lots of supplemental feeding as well as wrapping their hives with tar paper has managed to maintain their hives longevity during the month of November. Demand for honey is good at both retail and wholesale levels. Prices are generally unchanged.

U.S Exports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

	Year to Date		October 2014	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
COMB & NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -				
Afghanistan	1,195	8,383	544	4,675
Australia(*)	0	0	0	0
Bahamas, The	6,500	20,760	0	0
Bahrain	29,801	72,336	0	0
Barbados	21,439	79,087	7,361	16,810
Bermuda	0	0	0	0
Brazil	4,271	52,882	1,305	16,044
Cambodia	0	0	0	0
Cayman Islands	0	0	0	0
China	264,025	704,211	44,464	110,402
Costa Rica	457	2,770	0	0
Guatemala	305	3,406	0	0
Guyana	3,101	26,857	0	0
Hong Kong	5,268	26,382	0	0
Indonesia	516,615	1,414,249	52,036	126,309
Japan	351,977	1,631,710	0	0
Korea, South	156,559	834,055	0	0
Kuwait	413,805	1,017,736	55,697	138,306
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	227	2,578	0	0
Libya	10,989	49,365	0	0
Malaysia	6,939	21,457	0	0
Mexico	1,062	5,113	0	0
Mongolia	653	4,349	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	9,873	55,788	1,256	9,149
New Zealand(*)	0	0	0	0
Pakistan	58,639	142,337	0	0
Panama	18,343	111,337	898	5,344
Philippines	214,941	536,900	105,437	259,477
Qatar	0	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia	26,237	95,389	0	0
Singapore	42,075	109,733	0	0
Suriname	12,023	29,184	0	0
Taiwan	123,706	488,165	0	0
Thailand	34,209	83,035	0	0
Ukraine	19,058	51,457	0	0
United Arab Emirates	236,816	591,346	0	0
United Kingdom	7,401	17,964	7,401	17,964
Yemen(*)	305,710	1,130,340	0	0

NATURAL HONEY, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED - - -

Australia(*)	20,349	98,070	16,344	84,825
Bahamas, The	33,044	153,012	661	2,693
Barbados	7,762	42,107	2,817	10,302
Bermuda	29,351	118,646	2,351	6,739
Brazil	38,624	209,134	0	0
Cambodia	0	0	0	0
Canada	742,344	2,831,439	76,884	360,788
Cayman Islands	1,339	6,562	0	0
Chile	3,382	21,570	302	4,263

China	15,756	43,165	0	0
El Salvador	0	0	0	0
Germany(*)	9,587	25,022	0	0
Guatemala	595	6,643	0	0
Haiti	1,422	8,866	910	5,456
Hong Kong	53,789	263,709	18,129	53,000
India	33,266	100,005	0	0
Israel(*)	0	0	0	0
Jamaica	5,443	23,969	0	0
Japan	140,008	322,434	885	7,830
Korea, South	47,256	121,823	2,156	5,233
Kuwait	639	3,452	0	0
Malaysia	0	0	0	0
Mongolia	435	3,995	0	0
Netherlands	3,622	5,980	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	12,576	56,252	415	2,752
Panama	3,304	22,330	0	0
Philippines	3,283	22,226	0	0
Saudi Arabia	8,938	34,638	2,984	7,244
Singapore	3,893	35,154	1,236	11,177
Taiwan	69,035	137,758	2,498	11,560
Trinidad and Tobago	136	3,000	0	0
Turkey	78,848	230,144	0	0
Ukraine	0	0	0	0
United Arab Emirates	1,396	13,806	554	3,008
United Kingdom	2,423	17,783	0	0
Venezuela	0	0	0	0
Vietnam	22,213	49,446	0	0
Yemen(*)	2,266	12,500	0	0
GRAND TOTAL	4,300,543	14,465,301	405,525	1,281,350

U.S Imports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

Year to Date			October 2014		
Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars

WHITE HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -

Argentina	5,012,843	19,247,313	19,687,747	229,871	982,907	1,010,998
Brazil	790,548	3,123,789	3,220,223	0	0	0
Canada	4,157,492	19,687,198	19,760,682	456,011	2,150,619	2,160,097
Chile	37,689	139,449	143,449	0	0	0
Egypt	3,920	16,581	17,151	0	0	0
France(*)	630	7,375	7,625	330	3,840	3,932
Hungary	248	2,123	2,243	0	0	0
India	5,111,470	16,117,481	16,765,387	88,500	318,600	334,100
Israel(*)	1,022	6,677	6,937	0	0	0
Italy(*)	18,904	140,435	149,019	0	0	0
Mexico	1,253,354	4,926,686	4,976,757	19,468	66,474	67,474
New Zealand(*)	150	4,687	5,711	150	4,687	5,711
Pakistan	274	2,297	2,658	0	0	0
Switzerland(*)	21,488	94,469	97,626	0	0	0
Taiwan	78,082	142,966	154,321	0	0	0
Ukraine	19,140	56,965	57,465	0	0	0
United Kingdom	3,227	25,677	26,604	1,534	6,755	6,991
Uruguay	322,814	1,224,182	1,231,108	0	0	0
Vietnam	58,500	152,100	159,945	0	0	0

EXTRA LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -

Argentina	23,555,599	92,566,870	95,501,974	1,289,103	5,456,707	5,569,410
Brazil	2,045,178	7,654,948	7,915,732	60,948	250,887	256,826
Canada	206,000	1,112,897	1,117,042	46,206	238,419	238,898
Denmark(*)	628	5,883	6,785	0	0	0
France(*)	1,078	5,424	5,460	0	0	0
India	9,663,205	29,131,408	30,326,899	1,007,710	3,108,184	3,230,081
Italy(*)	11,339	51,251	54,731	0	0	0
Mexico	3,603,219	14,319,340	14,472,087	242,073	943,629	954,476
Pakistan	322,732	877,068	936,068	76,000	212,800	226,800
Poland	840	6,048	6,299	0	0	0
Portugal	867	10,319	11,195	0	0	0
Taiwan	763,860	1,847,495	1,934,502	152,540	369,599	383,660
Thailand	822,132	1,982,148	1,992,352	219,132	525,894	528,114
Ukraine	4,848,803	14,322,615	14,864,694	1,485,052	4,842,420	5,023,347
Uruguay	1,749,267	6,549,858	6,644,684	17,930	67,954	68,135
Vietnam	1,820,680	4,516,831	4,795,253	305,100	788,335	839,839

LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE –

Argentina	5,203,020	21,155,840	22,320,518	129,857	558,923	581,269
Australia(*)	2,157	29,481	29,924	0	0	0
Austria	56,705	422,605	449,118	4,066	37,873	39,856
Brazil	4,931,463	18,226,508	18,986,668	95,514	372,997	380,008
Bulgaria	233,888	699,480	716,434	159,648	476,760	493,710
Burma	146,119	343,959	359,616	0	0	0
Canada	21,688	106,476	107,396	0	0	0
Cote d'Ivoire	36,900	105,719	105,720	0	0	0
Croatia	1,296	11,166	11,523	0	0	0
Denmark(*)	734	3,888	4,486	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	392,246	1,104,115	1,135,902	0	0	0
Ecuador	679	3,120	3,729	0	0	0
Germany(*)	49,139	300,721	311,267	413	5,145	5,210
Guatemala	3,410	25,841	27,328	0	0	0
Hong Kong	15,048	99,254	101,028	4,788	31,353	31,920
India	3,462,605	10,222,922	10,690,432	382,170	1,192,280	1,252,998
Italy(*)	6,601	130,658	135,511	700	18,660	18,877
Latvia	76,560	244,992	250,272	0	0	0
Macedonia	805	4,982	5,133	0	0	0
Malaysia	161,820	364,095	381,713	0	0	0
Mexico	766,447	2,858,069	2,891,419	65,655	268,340	270,496
Moldova	3,459	5,718	5,719	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	243,771	2,436,556	2,445,796	23,360	689,159	691,109
Pakistan	26,211	76,853	82,983	0	0	0
Poland	9,386	39,163	42,265	3,685	22,659	24,538
Romania	3,392	18,075	20,884	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia	2,060	2,800	3,193	0	0	0
Spain	16,917	155,387	157,867	2,781	29,063	29,531
Switzerland(*)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Taiwan	308,365	707,431	783,435	76,560	176,854	189,493
Thailand	1,624,077	4,063,738	4,249,869	278,557	692,804	735,840
Turkey	1,904,287	4,951,789	5,457,703	260,764	686,337	744,611
Ukraine	592,891	1,752,997	1,836,273	74,934	252,110	265,597
United Kingdom	3,000	14,933	15,544	0	0	0
Uruguay	3,007,790	10,574,929	10,711,795	36,669	137,140	137,507

Vietnam	32,886,966	85,712,032	90,108,620	4,600,668	12,480,891	13,176,449
---------	------------	------------	------------	-----------	------------	------------

NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED ---

Albania	289	2,640	2,965	0	0	0
Argentina	96,142	327,088	332,751	0	0	0
Australia(*)	1,436	19,429	19,929	0	0	0
Brazil	23,064	97,527	106,164	0	0	0
Cameroon	18,840	41,448	43,948	0	0	0
Canada	43,280	223,692	224,058	20,392	93,385	93,405
Chile	1,554	15,840	16,290	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	350,589	761,887	792,719	56,063	123,430	126,299
Egypt	888	4,600	4,824	0	0	0
Ethiopia(*)	1,290	3,238	3,555	0	0	0
France(*)	6,136	90,138	93,019	779	10,827	11,137
Germany(*)	7,854	68,832	73,807	634	6,984	7,258
Ghana	1,865	10,402	12,609	0	0	0
Greece	10,995	64,006	68,611	0	0	0
Hungary	2,700	18,024	20,724	1,800	12,624	14,124
India	18,082	71,706	74,526	0	0	0
Indonesia	182,714	493,326	515,826	182,714	493,326	515,826
Israel(*)	11,166	83,138	85,209	0	0	0
Italy(*)	14,285	118,031	122,632	444	6,879	7,065
Latvia	727,320	1,528,900	1,528,919	76,560	154,268	154,270
Lithuania	8,119	40,576	42,903	0	0	0
Mexico	360,942	1,334,977	1,337,362	23,888	64,041	64,071
Moldova	1,923	4,093	4,727	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	799,999	6,052,869	6,171,517	57,130	484,035	494,801
Oman	1,699	4,917	5,882	0	0	0
Poland	17,678	122,279	130,822	296	5,927	6,406
Portugal	324	3,576	3,626	0	0	0
Russia	3,012	14,977	16,360	276	4,379	4,787
Saudi Arabia	13,828	66,462	66,607	13,423	63,612	63,707
Serbia	648	3,987	4,219	0	0	0
Spain	1,310	13,637	14,025	0	0	0
Taiwan	809,366	1,944,882	2,025,456	77,800	191,722	201,572
Thailand	1,937	5,200	5,378	0	0	0
Turkey	915	4,081	4,468	0	0	0
Ukraine	39,391	88,627	97,433	0	0	0
Uruguay	94,499	321,736	334,995	0	0	0
Vietnam	3,505,558	8,513,881	8,934,145	397,860	987,757	1,020,064

COMB AND RETAIL HONEY –

Albania	1,402	12,676	13,876	0	0	0
Argentina	8,457	51,325	56,429	0	0	0
Australia(*)	23,383	139,130	139,374	0	0	0
Austria	7,212	94,811	100,584	0	0	0
Brazil	4,546	37,414	39,405	167	2,799	3,486
Bulgaria	88,049	341,961	370,554	12,139	61,228	75,577
Canada	28,533	231,877	233,038	1,985	17,895	18,046
Chile	1,217	11,952	12,102	0	0	0
Costa Rica	572	2,008	2,818	572	2,008	2,818
Dominican Republic	1,154	3,456	3,931	0	0	0
Egypt	2,100	6,450	6,720	0	0	0
France(*)	110,655	1,192,328	1,250,941	5,883	61,124	64,023

Germany(*)	226,812	1,377,804	1,435,103	78,433	450,246	470,021
Greece	47,610	608,326	625,279	4,850	40,547	42,378
Guatemala	21,645	102,020	104,115	0	0	0
Hungary	44,329	322,351	340,415	7,949	73,203	75,614
India	334,208	1,110,764	1,164,928	0	0	0
Ireland	435	3,197	3,448	0	0	0
Israel(*)	6,449	42,286	42,331	0	0	0
Italy(*)	46,477	490,420	504,137	4,587	65,698	67,679
Jordan	7,929	16,324	18,111	0	0	0
Kuwait	439	4,440	6,840	439	4,440	6,840
Lebanon	6,750	78,210	80,214	1,800	20,790	21,477
Lithuania	7,136	31,855	35,041	3,536	16,867	18,554
Macedonia	1,016	4,083	4,270	0	0	0
Mexico	27,989	111,572	113,378	2,325	13,578	13,778
Moldova	10,497	62,171	68,501	2,412	14,492	16,056
New Zealand(*)	407,201	2,953,407	2,985,498	3,175	18,894	19,537
Poland	21,888	59,686	62,893	0	0	0
Portugal	19,049	130,373	135,523	0	0	0
Romania	576	4,814	5,626	0	0	0
Russia	60,392	316,590	348,250	22,184	113,402	124,742
Serbia	10,102	80,193	83,982	622	4,113	4,467
Spain	87,384	647,249	669,075	0	0	0
Switzerland(*)	18,293	273,876	285,292	0	0	0
Taiwan	115,817	258,713	272,420	1,080	5,292	5,500
Turkey	97,359	630,407	652,575	8,644	59,279	62,076
Ukraine	24,592	84,823	93,306	0	0	0
United Kingdom	394	7,002	7,030	0	0	0
Uzbekistan, Republic of	4,954	56,929	62,622	0	0	0

FLAVORED HONEY –

Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	8,416	22,291	23,597	1,040	3,442	3,691
Canada	3,244	155,617	156,114	0	0	0
China	2,291	50,741	54,737	0	0	0
France(*)	8,844	308,148	311,218	0	0	0
Germany(*)	527	9,633	9,755	527	9,633	9,755
Greece	404	4,562	4,954	0	0	0
India	63,448	140,272	145,672	0	0	0
Ireland	489	5,503	6,061	0	0	0
Italy(*)	5,302	116,048	118,075	60	2,558	2,564
Japan	10,888	98,592	100,601	159	12,580	13,541
Korea, South	162,005	2,278,769	2,324,828	24,208	406,654	418,273
Mexico	148,162	1,520,046	1,527,354	57,690	613,272	615,115
Netherlands	26,746	135,326	142,596	0	0	0
Portugal	8,404	42,971	47,098	0	0	0
Spain	5,173	36,666	43,036	0	0	0
Taiwan	26,604	117,051	121,661	2,100	47,457	47,904
Thailand	79,387	351,067	362,580	17,280	77,220	79,669
United Arab Emirates	7,991	14,458	15,035	0	0	0
United Kingdom	382	7,339	7,353	0	0	0

ORGANIC HONEY –

Argentina	36,259	128,723	131,849	0	0	0
Australia(*)	36,960	281,305	296,677	9,240	67,252	69,752
Brazil	10,172,908	39,732,277	41,107,865	685,587	2,719,288	2,808,209
Bulgaria	3,063	22,160	22,660	0	0	0
Canada	96,328	610,259	613,867	2,296	19,710	20,325
Cyprus	600	11,388	12,536	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	3,051	17,091	18,693	0	0	0

Greece	1,093	12,985	13,219	0	0	0
India	400	2,200	2,404	0	0	0
Italy(*)	27,817	321,408	331,213	345	6,162	6,381
Kuwait	4,421	27,851	28,250	0	0	0
Mexico	110,264	436,594	452,712	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	10,680	190,603	192,273	6,680	88,852	89,722
Vietnam	186,000	492,900	506,900	0	0	0

GRAND TOTAL	142,884,314	489,337,911	507,041,926	13,778,500	46,291,229	48,060,270
--------------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	------------	------------	------------

Notes:

1. Data Source: Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics
2. All zeroes for a data item may show that statistics exist in the other import type. Consumption or General.
3. (*) denotes a country that is a summarization of its component countries.
4. Users should use cautious interpretation on QUANTITY reports using mixed units of measure.
QUANTITY line items will only include statistics on the units of measure that are equal to, or are able to be converted to, the assigned unit of measure of the grouped commodities.
5. The CIF Value is not included within the 13th month data loads. This means that the CIF Value will be zero (0) for any records that are inserted during this process.
6. Product Group : Harmonized